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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2172  
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE 1001  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 6069  
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI IMMEDIATE 5658  
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE  
RUDKSR/EUCOM PLANS AND ANALYSIS STUTTGART GE IMMEDIATE  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHNO/USDELMC BRUSSELS BE IMMEDIATE  
RHMFISS/USNMR SHAPE BE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 000297

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/05/2017  
TAGS: [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [GG](#) [RS](#)  
SUBJECT: RUSSIA HALTS MILITARY COOPERATION WITH NATO  
COUNTRIES

Classified By: Charge W.S. Reid for reasons 1.4 (b), (d)

11. (C) The Acting Russian Senior Military Representative to NATO informed the Chairman of the Military Committee in an August 21 letter that the MOD will halt military cooperation with NATO countries "until further instructions" (text of letter para 2). In parallel, the NATO international staff reported that Russian General Nikishin delivered the same message to the NATO Military Liaison Office (MLO) in Moscow, but stressed repeatedly that it is a temporary suspension, which would not affect the operation of the MLO (military committee read-out emailed to EUR/RPM) . Allies reported that the Russian MOD has sent mixed messages on the suspension. Russian demarches to Spain, Norway, and Estonia had implied bilateral cooperation with NATO Allies would be affected, while the message to Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands was that this would only impact cooperation with NATO.

12. (SBU) Begin Text.  
21 August 2008

Admiral G. Di Paola  
Chairman of the NATO Military Committee

Dear Admiral!

The Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation has taken a decision to halt international military cooperation events between NATO countries with participation of forces and experts of the Russian MOD until further instructions.  
Sincerely yours,

Acting Senior Representative of the Russian Federation to NATO  
Colonel Audrey Zhukov

End text.  
REID